Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 EUR-12 DHA-05 /088 W
----------038602 201305Z /43
R 201210Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5684
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 5555

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UNSC, RH, US, UK, XG, XT, PDEV
SUBJ: RHODESIA AND THE SECURITY COUNCIL; CONSULTATIONS IN CAPITALS

REF: STATE 217724

1. I ACCOMPANIED BRITISH CHARGE ON CALL ON OAU SECGEN ETEKI SEPT 19. BRITISH CHARGE, USING OWN TALKINGS POINTS WHICH PARALLELED OURS, MADE ALL POINTS PARA 3 (A)-(E) REFTEL AND WE BOTH STRESSED DESIRABILITY AND NEED FOR STRONG AFRICAN SUPPORT.

2. ETEKI EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR UPDATE ON STATUS OF US/UK PROPOSALS, BUT HAD NO OFFICIAL REACTION, SAYING THAT UP TO THIS POINT HE HAD REFRAINED FROM COMMENTING. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION HE TOLD US HE HAD NOT HAD OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH BROAD SPECTRUM OF AFRICAN STATES AS YET IMPLYING THAT UNTIL HE DID AND FELT MORE SURE OF HIS GROUND, HE PROBABLY WOULD NOT HAVE MUCH TO SAY. NONETHELESS, GENERAL TENOR OF HIS REMARKS AND ATTITUDE WAS FAVORABLE. HE RECOGNIZED DESIRABILITY OF AFRICAN AND PARTICULARLY FRONT LINE SUPPORT AND THOUGHT THERE WAS GOOD CHANCE AFRICANS (OR AT LEAST MODERATES) WOULD SUPPORT THIS FIRST MOVE IN SECURITY COUNCIL. HE
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WAS CONCERNED WITH SMITH'S POSSIBLE REACTION (HE AGAIN SAID HE DID NOT TRUST THE MAN) BUT SEEMED WILLING ACCEPT BRITISH CHARGE'S OBSERVATION THAT WE MUST BEGIN PROCESS AND THAT UNTIL WE DO, WE WON'T REALLY KNOW SMITH'S REACTION OR HOW TO COPE WITH IT. ETEKI SAID HE WISHED PROPOSALS HAD COME YEAR EARLIER BUT ACCEPTED OUR OBSERVATION THAT IF THEY HAD, THERE WAS REAL QUES-

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TION WHETHER SITUATION HAD EVOLVED SUFFICIENTLY FAR IN RHODESIA AT THAT TIME TO HAVE PERMITTED SMITH TO GIVE THEM MUCH CONSIDERATION. ETEKI ALSO MUSED WHETHER SOVIETS MIGHT VETO UK PROPOSAL IN SC. WE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT UK RESOLUTION WAS SO SIMPLE AND STRAIGHTFORWARD THAT SOVIETS WOULD FIND IT DIFFICULT TO VETO EVEN IF THEY WANTED TO.

3. COMMENT: ETEKI WAS NOTICEABLY MORE RELAXED ON SUBJECT THIS TIME THAT HE HAS BEEN BEFORE. THERE WAS NO TALKS OF ARMED RESOLTUION OF RHODESIAN PROBLEM AND HE NOTED TWO OR THREE TIMES NYERERE'S REPORTEDLY FAVORABLE COMMENTS. IT WAS OBVIOUS, HOWEVER, THAT HE WAS GOING TO BE CAUTIOUS AT LEAT UNTIL HE HAS BETTER SENSE OF AFRICAN REACTION. HE TOLD US HE WOULD PROBABLY BE GOING TO NEW YORK NEXT WEEK. USUN MAY WISH KEEP IN TOUCH WITH HIM.

4. FOR USUN: ALTHOUGH NOT INSTRUCTED TO DO SO, I DID MENTION INFORMALLY UK RES TO BERHANE DERESSA, DIRECTOR AMERICAN AFFAIRS DIVISION, MOFA, WHO LEFT FOR NEW YORK SEPT 19 AS PART OF EPMG DEL TO UNGA. BERHANE HAD PARTICIPATED IN UK/US APPROACH TO EPMG ON SEPT 6 (ADDIS 5309 NOTAL), AND IS FAMILIAR WITH PROBLEM. I EXPRESSED TO HIM OUR HOPE FOR AFRICAN SUPPORT. BERHANE IS VETERAN OF UNGA'S AND VERY SENSITIVE TO USG POSITIONS.
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WE RECOMMEND YOU KEEP IN TOUCH WITH HIM DURING HIS STAY IN NEW YORK NOT ONLY ON THIS SUBJECT BUT ON ANY OTHERS WHERE AFRICAN SUPPORT IS DESIRABLE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: INFORMATION EXCHANGE, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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